



Executive Office of the Mayor

## Youth Service Project Ideas

The following is a list of possible project ideas, to help you as you consider your service project for National Youth Service Day 2005. This list is just a starting point; remember there are *many* opportunities for you to Serve DC!

When you select a project, don't forget to go to [www.serve.dc.gov](http://www.serve.dc.gov) to register it. Registering your project allows you to advertise for it, seek other volunteers to join your efforts, and be recognized as an official part of National Youth Service Day 2005. It is important to share your contribution to your community!

- ✂ Assemble Kits
  - **"I Care Kits"** to donate to nursing homes or homeless shelters (contact the organization beforehand for a list of acceptable items)
  - **New Kid** Survival Kit (in school)
- ✂ Make **puppets** for younger students or children in hospitals
- ✂ Make **bookmarks** for younger students or children in hospitals
- ✂ Make **door hangers** for residents of a local nursing home
- ✂ Make **historical mobiles** to be hung in elementary schools
- ✂ Create a **service learning project** to celebrate Emancipation Day.
- ✂ **Plant flowers** in front of your school, at local non-profit or children's hospital
- ✂ **Plant trees** in memory of great service leaders and make plaques to place in front of the trees
- ✂ Create an outdoor **reading area**
- ✂ Refurbish the **playground** at your school/agency
- ✂ Create a **positive graffiti** or **self-expression wall**
- ✂ Organize a **recycling project** at your school
- ✂ **Paint murals** on boards (at school, nursing home, non-profit, hospital, etc.)
- ✂ Host a **celebration** for younger students after the completion of a long week of testing
- ✂ Make and design **cement stepping stones**
- ✂ Build and paint **wooden trash receptacles**
- ✂ Make **fabric banners** with positive messages and images
- ✂ Create an **outdoor classroom**
- ✂ Work on a **community garden**

**Serve your country. Serve your community. Serve DC.**

One Judiciary Square 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 1040S Washington, D.C. 20001  
Tel: (202) 727-7925 • Fax: (202) 727-9198 [www.serve.dc.gov](http://www.serve.dc.gov)

- ✂ Build a **sensory garden** (with plants that have different touch, smell, sound, etc.)
- ✂ Build a **healing garden** (with plants that have healing properties)
- ✂ Make **doggie biscuits** to be donated to a local animal shelter
- ✂ Organize a **city-wide forum** with young people, government officials and community leaders
- ✂ Create a **community history book** and/or Photo Journal and/or Web Page and/or Quilt and/or Mural and/or Mosaic
  - Interview community elders
  - Highlight historic sites and their significance
  - Compare now and then and provide a glimpse into the future
- ✂ Create a **history of young people** and their contributions to society
- ✂ Launch a **letter writing campaign** to your Congressional Representative or other members of Congress in support of the Younger Americans Act and Reauthorization of the National and Community Service Trust Act (more info visit [www.serve.dc.gov](http://www.serve.dc.gov))

Please contact Jelani Freeman at 202.727.7966 or [Jelani.freeman@dc.gov](mailto:Jelani.freeman@dc.gov) with any questions.



*Adapted from Hands On Atlanta Materials*

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